

THE "CONWAY" CLUB ANNUAL DINNER.

The Third Annual Dinner of the "Conway" Old Boys' Club was held on the evening of Thursday, May 22nd, in the Banqueting Hall of the Exchange Station Hotel, Tithebarn Street, Liverpool.

A large number of "old boys" were present, while the guests included representatives of the Liverpool Steamship Lines, the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, and other shipping and commercial institutions. The dinner was served in the excellent manner for which the Exchange Station Hotel is noted, whilst the arrangements for the dinner were in the hands of a Committee consisting of Commander C. K. Browne, R.D., R.N.R., Dr. C. Burland, Commander H. McNeile Dibb, R.D., R.N.R., Captain S. E. Dutton, Lieut. J. W. Gracey, R.N.R., Captain J. D. Hutchinson, Lieut. J. D. Keatinge, R.N.R.,

Captain C. L. A. Lecoustre, Captain P. D. Murray, Lieut. L. R. Peel, R.N.R., Lieut. E. C. Roden, R.N.R., Lieut. W. F. Seattle, R.D., R.N.R., Lieut. W. P. Thompson, R.N.R., and Commander H. W. Broadbent, R.D., R.N.R. (Hon. Secretary and Treasurer).

During the evening an excellent musical programme was provided by the well-known

Liverpool artistes, Mr. Tom Barlow (tenor), who rendered "A Rose Memory," "On Lido Waters," "Mountain Lovers," and "An Irish Love Song," and Mr. J. C. Brien (bass), who sang "Love, could I only tell thee," "The Bedouin Love Song," "Drake goes West," and "In Sheltered Vale." Messrs.

Barlow and Brien gave as a duet "Flow gently, Deva." Mr. Tom Barlow, Jun., proved himself a very capable accompanist.

Sir Hamilton J. Goold-Adams, G.C.M.G., (President of the Club) presided, and those present included Messrs. G. D. Killey, David Jones (Messrs. Elder, Dempster & Co.), R. Burton Chadwick, Alfred Chandler

(Mersey Docks & Harbour Board), Gilbert Fraser (Architect of "Conway" House), G. Biddulph Eaton, L. McGavin, F.R.C.S., C. D. Mackenzie, A. T. C. Crawford, Prof. Abell, T. S. Scott, C. P. Grylls, T. W. Moore, C. H. Birchall, C. Kershaw, J. Morgan, V. G. Le Mesurier, T. P. Marchant, A. E. Blomfield,

T. J. C. Greenwood, G. S. McNaught, C. Gordon Smith, Rev. J. F. Spink, and Captains Young (President of the Old "Worcesters" Association), J. W. Batchelor, F. W. Mace, J. Trener, W. Corkhill, J. Keay, McLenna, Leitch, Lyon, and the following Old Boys:— D. Agnew (1883-85), J. O. Arnold (1875-76), S. P. H. Atkinson (1861-62), G. H. Barclay (1875-77), C. d'H. Bell (1875-77), H. W. Broadbent (1880-81), C. K. Browne (1872-74), C. Burland (1872-75), R. D. Cruikshank (1909-11), B. O. Daish (1867-69), C. V. Daly (1870-72), H. McNeile Dibb (1883-84), G. H. Dodd (1880-82), M. G. Douglas (1893-95), J. Drinkwater (1906-08), S. E. Dutton (1882-84), R. G. Emsley (1879-80), Sir H. J. Goold-Adams (1871-73), J. W. Gracey (1899-01), G. Gregory (1887-88), W. A. Hawkes (1896-98), G. C. Holloway (1885-87), J. O. Hope (1872-74), J. D. Hutchinson (1899-01), C. J. Knott-Hutchinson (1876-78), Rev. T. E. Jameson (1865-66), C. L. A. Lecoustre (1883-85), W. Long (1879-81), K. Mackenzie (1905-08), S. C. Magrath (1881-83), E. R. McKinstry (1876-78), P. D. Murray (1867-69), J. H. Pearson (1862-63), L. R. Peel (1885-87), E. C. Roden (1890-92), A. H. Rostron (1885-86), W. F. Seattle (1879-81), D. H. Standing (1899-00), W. P. Thompson (1869-70), C. Wenner (1894-95), J. A. Williamson (1903-05), H. L. Wilson (1860-62).

Several others, who intended to be present, were unavoidably prevented from attending. Altogether, 105 sat down to dinner.

The usual loyal toasts were honoured, on the proposition of the Chairman.

The Chairman: I will now ask Mr. Jones to propose the toast of the "Conway."

Mr. David Jones: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen. Now that I am up I am not quite sure whether I am standing on the floor or at sea, but I am surrounded by friends on all sides, which is a comfort. I have been entrusted with the toast of the "Conway." I suppose the old ship bears her name from that good old port in the Principality which from time to time has produced a great many men for the sea. Whether or no I, as one of her sons, will take that credit. The Congo—(loud laughter)—or the "Conway" rather—is an old institution. I see it was started in 1859, and since that period it has passed through 4,550 Cadets, which is a very creditable result. Amongst these have been many men who have won distinction in life afterwards,

including our Chairman of this evening, Sir Hamilton J. Goold-Adams (loud applause). The great question often is, "What to do with our boys." The "Conway" offers one channel, at any rate, towards answering that question, when the boys are young men. When my son was a little tot, he talked of being a policeman, but as he has grown older he has played with soldiers, submariners, and other things, but what his ultimate bent will be, I am not quite sure. Talking about him, he asked me one day, "Why do you go to the office?" and I replied in an off-hand manner, "For bread and cheese." One Saturday afternoon, when he was a little older, he was brought to the office with his mother to fetch me out to stand them lunch, and he came and whispered in my ear "Where do you keep the bread and cheese?" and I had to whisper "We keep that down at the docks, and we only keep decanters for water in the office." The "Conway" offers one channel for our growing youth, and we are, strange to say, at the present moment, suffering from a scarcity of men in practically all walks of life, particularly in connection with shipping, and it is a very desirable thing that we should augment our ranks as far as it is possible, because being a maritime power, it is essential for us to keep to the front, and have sons following their fathers to keep up the old flag.—(Hear, hear.) It is a great thing to have a good training coupled with a good education. It forms a good ground work to work upon in after life, and is particularly evident in the case of the "Conway"—(Hear, hear). I for one would be pleased to see an increased number passing through. I understand that the "Conway" has been sending annually about twelve Cadets to His Majesty's Navy, and the numbers are really on the increase. The "Conway" is the only institution in the country that has this distinguished privilege. I am informed that the "Conway" is to receive a mark of Royal favour, inasmuch as His Majesty the King has consented to present his medal personally to the successful candidate.—(Loud applause.) I am sure that we all have the best and warmest wishes for the success of this old institution. May it further prosper, and I take this opportunity of thanking you for having given me the pleasure of being one of your guests this evening. I will ask you to drink to the health of the "Conway," and couple with the toast the name of Mr. Killey.—(Loud applause.)

The toast was received with enthusiasm.

Mr. G. D. Killey, Chairman of the "Conway" Committee: Mr. President and Gentlemen. On behalf of the Committee of Management of the "Conway," I should like to thank Mr. David Jones, of the illustrious firm of Elder, Dempster & Co., for the flattering manner in which he has proposed the health of the ship. Of the many positions

that I have the honour of holding in the City of Liverpool, or in the country, there is none that I more highly esteem than that of Chairman of the Committee of Management of the "Conway."—(Hear, hear.) Following as I have the honour of doing, that grand old man—that father of shipping—Sir Thomas Royden—(hear, hear)—and of more recent date Sir Robert Hampson, both myself and my

Committee do. I assure you, feel the responsibility of the position we occupy. We know that the eyes of old "Conways" are fixed upon the ship, the concerns of the ship, and the management of the ship, and it will ever be the endeavour of those who are associated with the Committee of Management to continue the ship with the unparalleled success that has been attained in past years.

There is hardly a year but some distinctive sign of progress is made; there is never a year that some old "Conway" boy does not add lustre to the name of the ship.—(Hear, hear.) May I be pardoned to-night in referring to one gentleman who is with us, Captain Rostron, of the "Carpathia."—(Loud and continued applause.) Gentlemen, I would not to-night cast one shadow of gloom upon this gathering.

but whether he was a seaman, or whether he was a landsman like myself, our hearts thrill and rejoice that it fell to the lot of an Englishman to come and rescue the small handful from that ill-doomed ship. That man was an old "Conway," and we honour him, and we welcome him amongst us.—(Loud applause.) If time permitted, one could go through a roll of men who have not only rendered great distinction to the merchant service, but to the country at large. I am glad to think that as years go on there are from time to time manifest signs of development on board the ship. It was very gratifying to those who are responsible for the management of the ship, when a certain gentleman connected with the Admiralty visited this port in his yacht a short time ago, and was piloted up and down the river by Commander Mace, one of the Committee, he found time to visit the ship. I refer to Mr. Winston Churchill, who, when he saw what work was being done there, said they would take as many boys as could pass the qualifying examination, and we stand in the proud position that we are the only ship that is enabled to send boys into the Royal Navy without going through the Royal Naval College at Osborne. We are contemplating a development which I believe will conduce to the health of the boys, which is exceptionally good, but boys like adults suffer from various little troubles, and want a little bit of bucking up. We have thought it desirable to have a house ashore, and we are about to build a house at Rock Ferry which we may call a house of rest, where these young gentlemen who suffer from the effects of too hard work, can go for a few days, if the Doctor thinks a little rest is good for them. Now, gentlemen, I feel that the "Conway" is not only doing a local work, but is doing a national work. When we realize what this country would do without its mercantile marine, we feel that we are doing a great national work in the training of these young men to fill positions on our great merchant ships. It is very gratifying to know that our steamship companies are most anxious for us to send "Conway" boys to them, and it is equally gratifying to know that these "Conway" boys fulfil our highest hopes and wishes. So long as we have a "Conway" on the Mersey we shall have the boys, and so long as we have a Mersey Docks & Harbour Board, the Manager and Secretary of which is Mr. Chandler, who is one of our guests

this evening, we have never any need to fear that Liverpool will be behind the other ports.

I feel we are very much indebted to the distinguished President—(loud applause)—for being with us this evening. It is a great pleasure for us Liverpool people to see him in our midst, and particularly to those of us who are so closely identified with the "Conway," and have the interest of the "Conway" so much at heart, it is a matter of pride that we can claim him as one of our Old Boys. Their number is great, and it is a matter of proud satisfaction for us to feel that whether it is in connection with the Navy, whether it is in connection with the Army, whether it is in connection with the Mercantile pursuits of this country, the "Conway" has sent her quota of first-class men to take up honourable positions, and I am perfectly convinced they will do so in the future. On behalf of the "Conway" I thank you for drinking the toast, and I hope the day will be far distant when whoever represents the "Conway" will feel that the "Conway" has not fulfilled its mission, or that the lustre of the past has grown dim.—(Loud and prolonged applause.)

The Chairman: I will ask Mr. Crawford to propose the toast of the "Conway" Club.

Mr. A. T. Crawford: Gentlemen, to my happy, and no doubt very much envied lot, has fallen the privilege and the pleasure of proposing what I egotistically, if you like, claim to call the toast of the evening, and that is "The 'Conway' Club."—(Hear, hear.) I have thought while I was sitting here to-night that if there was justification for a Club at all, it was the very representative and distinguished gathering of "Conway" boys that I see round me to-night.—(Hear, hear.) I have heard a good deal from my friend Mr. Jones with regard to the usefulness of the "Conway," and our friend Mr. Killey in greater detail has shown the usefulness of the ship, and what the members of it have accomplished. After all, those who have been attracted to the "Conway" in the days of their boyhood want to feel that in the days of their manhood they can come along and sit at a table of fraternity and brotherhood, and feel that the reputation of the good old ship is being maintained.—(Hear, hear.) You have representatives not only in this city of Liverpool, but I suppose I am safe in saying in almost every part of the Empire, and I know from what I have heard, that there is not one

of them who has not acquitted himself in a way which has commanded and approved the admiration of every one with whom he has come into contact. A Club such as this, with the record that the "Conway" can show in all parts of the world, should never know the extent of its members, but I was surprised to hear that the "Conway" Club has no special building or club house of its

own, in which to meet, and so far as I can gather, fraternizing is confined to the annual gathering, such as the one we are celebrating to-night, but I certainly think that a Club of this kind should have a building of its own. I think that those gentlemen, guests here to-night, who have not been "Conway" boys, would like to pay a tribute, and if I can respectfully on their behalf do so, to all the

"Conway" boys who are present here to-night, and not only those who are present here, but those who are at present in other parts of the world, to the deeds of valour, the deeds of gallantry, and the splendid reputation that they have made and established for the good old ship "Conway," none of which can be excelled than those of the distinguished representative of the "Conway" that we

have with us here to-night in the Chair, your President.—(Loud applause.)

The toast was received with musical honours.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, with your permission I should like to divide the remarks which I am about to make into two divisions. I feel sure that those who are guests here this evening will not object to me saying a few words

to my comrades in the "Conway" Club. Before replying to the toast, I should like to say to you the old members of the "Conway" and who are now members of the "Conway" Club, the pleasure it gives me to be down here once more, to be present at your annual gathering, and to join with you in welcoming so many distinguished guests as you have this evening. I have also a personal expression to give voice to, and to thank you gentlemen exceedingly for your kindness, on the occasion of my wedding, a couple of years ago, for the exceedingly handsome present which you thought fit to give me. I can assure you that no memento such as that was necessary to make me feel strongly and to appreciate more the position in which you have placed me as that of your President. I appreciated it very highly indeed, when you made me your President. Naturally, as an Old Boy of the "Conway," it is the greatest gratification that you, who have followed perhaps a different course in life to myself, should have thought fit to select me as the President of your Club on its formation. Let me thank you exceedingly for the kindness in which you subscribed together and presented me with that memento as a token of appreciation of my services, and your well-wishes on the occasion of my marriage. I again thank you also for again electing me as your President, which is an honour which I appreciate more than anything I can have had in the past. Now, Gentlemen, to you who so kindly drank the toast so ably proposed by Mr. Crawford, "The 'Conway' Club," I should like to say one or two words with regard to the formation of this Club, and how much is due to the efforts of Commander Broadbent in the founding of the Club, and also in carrying it on. As you, Mr. Crawford, rightly said, the object of the Club was to enable the members of the "Conway" to join once a year and sit round the festive board, and enable many, who, owing to the different spheres of life in which they are cast, have not an opportunity of shaking the hand of many who would not otherwise have the opportunity of greeting. There was a further object in the formation of this Club, and that was to carry on that bond of union between the past boys of the "Conway," and establish some tangible body which they could belong to, and which they would be proud of.—(Hear, hear.) I think that many of you who sit here will agree with me that when boys go out into life and get separated, some,

unfortunately perhaps, due to temptation, and other things, fall away from the course which many of their fellow-comrades would desire, and I think that in the establishment of this "Conway" Club, and the eligibility of every member of the "Conway," who has been through the "Conway," joining this Club, they had a bond of union of which they might be proud, and something that might in the day of temptation stand them in good stead when they remember that they were members of the "Conway" Club, and their fellow-members would not desire to hear that a comrade was doing something unworthy of the Club. I think that is more than annually sitting round the festive board, and having a dinner. It is, as I say, to form a bond of union of the highest order that all of them might be proud of, and which would prevent them sinking and doing something that their fellow-comrades might not like.—(Loud applause.) The figures given with regard to the number of Cadets that had passed through the "Conway" was something over 4,000. We are now 400, and I am glad to see and hear that the boys on leaving the "Conway" are now coming forward, and joining this Club, but I wish that many of the members of the "Conway" Club who are present would use more persuasion, if they possibly can, to get some of those 3,600 who are outside the Club, to come and join it. In my own travels through the world, I have come across many "Conway" boys, and I am glad to think I have been able to do something for them. Some of my best Lieutenants in South Africa and other parts of the world in which my life has been cast have been "Conway" boys, and I have assisted them to the best of my ability, and they have never turned their back upon me. Some are members of the "Conway," Club, and I regret that this evening I was to be accompanied from London by an old "Conway" boy, but who has been prevented from coming to Liverpool, as he has to sail from London for South Africa to take up an important position in the mining world. I was very pleased to hear what Mr. Killey was saying as to what the Committee of the training ship was doing with regard to athletics and the establishment of that house on shore. I feel certain these things will be of the greatest benefit to the "Conway." They are very different to the time when I was on the "Conway," for in those days we had no playground on shore. Even amongst the

gentlemen who preceded Mr. Killey as Chairman—I think in my time it was Mr. Aspinall or Mr. Beazley—I think they undoubtedly took a great interest in the “Conway” at that time, but unfortunately they did not see so far ahead as the present Chairman of the “Conway.” Another remark I heard Mr. Killey say was with regard to the shipowners that they were pleased to

take “Conway” boys. I want to relate an incident in connection with that matter, which probably might have altered my career altogether. I was Chief Petty Officer of the “Conway,” and I saw a vessel lying in the river here, and I went to the shipowner, the head of the firm, and asked whether he would take me as an apprentice. At that particular moment he had had a bad report

of a “Conway” boy who had run away from his ship at San Francisco, and the shipowner said he would not take “Conway” boys. The ship went from Liverpool and was lost with all hands off Sydney. I am very glad to think that times have changed, and that “Conway” boys are appreciated as they should be. I am very glad to hear too that the Royal Navy is taking so many “Conway”

boys, and I feel perfectly certain that they could not go to a better institution for Officers for the Royal Navy, men who will stand by their country as many Officers do. On the last occasion I had the pleasure of being present, I referred to the annual boat-race between the “Conway” and the “Worcester.”—(Loud applause.) As President of the Club I took the opportunity, when I

met Sir William Corry, who is a member of the Committee of the "Worcester," to refer to the matter, and I urged upon him the necessity of trying to get the present objection on behalf of the "Worcester" authorities withdrawn, and to allow the boatrace to take place. We had some correspondence upon it, and he wrote me finally that he regretted not being able to overcome the difficulties. I cannot help saying that I think it is a great pity that the boatrace is not the institution it used to be, and I do not know what I can do as President of the "Conway" Club to bring more pressure to bear, but I understand it is only a question of sinking one old gentleman over the side of the ship, and getting rid of him.—(Laughter.)

As we have so many persons here this evening who are influential in shipping circles, I should like as an old "Conway" boy, and one who has taken a great interest in the Mercantile Marine for many years to urge upon them what I did on the last occasion, and that is, I do think that fathers and mothers, when they talk about what they were going to do with their boys, hesitate about putting their sons in the Mercantile Marine in consequence of the hardships they have to go through when they are young men. I allude to the accommodation on some of those vessels which are called tramps. I do think that the gentlemen who are interested in the building of ships might occasionally pay more attention, when they are looking at the plans, to the accommodation of the junior officers on board their ships. I think that something of that sort ought to be done, as it is only a very small thing, and must mean only a small cost in the construction of the ship, and I am perfectly certain it would go a long way in the minds of parents, when they knew there would be more comfort in the Mercantile Marine. I do not allude to the larger ships, many of which I have had the pleasure of sailing in, and I have never on one single occasion heard a complaint on board these ships. Unfortunately young men cannot always get on these ships, and I cannot help thinking that a little extra attention in the building of the ships to the comfort of the Officers would benefit those going into the service, and benefit the country generally.—(Loud applause.) Again, Mr. Crawford and gentlemen, allow me to thank you most heartily on behalf of the "Conway" Club, for the kind remarks you have made about the "Conway" Club, and

you, gentlemen, for the kind way in which you received this toast.—(Loud applause.)

The Chairman: I will now ask Lieut. W. P. Thompson to propose the toast of "The Guests."

Lieut. W. P. Thompson: Mr. President and Gentlemen, it affords me great pleasure to propose this toast, viz., that of "The Guests," especially to couple with it the name of our old friend Captain Young, and Mr. Burton Chadwick. Captain Young is an old boy of the "Worcester," who tried to get the boatrace on again, but had not succeeded, and I think he will try again. We have all watched with great interest Captain Young's career in Liverpool, and we were not a bit surprised to hear that he was taken to London. I think you will agree in congratulating Captain Young on his appointment, and also congratulate the Board of Trade on having such an able and popular official. I am delighted to have this opportunity of coupling his name with the toast. Mr. Burton Chadwick is one of our coming shipowners, and I think as our Chairman referred to the question of better accommodation for our officers, Mr. Chadwick is already doing that.—(Hear, hear.) I give you the toast of "The Guests," coupled with the name of Captain Young, and Mr. Burton Chadwick.

The toast was musically honoured.

Captain A. H. F. Young: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, I would prefer to say in such a community as this "old boys."—(Hear, hear.) On behalf of my fellow-guests and myself, I am very pleased indeed to thank first of all my good friend here, your Vice-Chairman, for the privilege he has given me. Captain Thompson was, I think, the first to offer me the hand of good fellowship some years ago, when I came to this port, and I am not only pleased but proud to say that good fellowship has developed into a very considerable friendship. I also thank you, gentlemen, for the very kindly and cordial manner in which you have received this toast. A point also I would like to dwell upon for a moment is that you are like myself training-ship boys, for of the "Conway" or the "Worcester," it can be said those two ships are something more than names, they have sent out into the world men who have carved out a life for themselves. These ships have sent out something more than men; they have sent out navigators—navigators who are second to none—and men who have carried with them the influence of

their early training, which has enabled them to level up the standard of the mercantile marine, and give it a tone which has become the admiration of every other nation.—(Hear, hear.) Your Chairman has alluded to one or two things in connection with some of the work that I have to do, and one I would particularly like to express a word or two upon is that of the boat race.—(Hear, hear.)

It has been a very painful thing indeed, as an old "Worcester," to feel that that race has been given up, but in endeavouring to restore it, I think we must choose our own time. If we can choose our own time, and not proceed too fast, but wait for certain circumstances to develop, I fully believe that the boat race will be restored, and that the "Worcester" boys will come down to the Mersey and try

to regain the cup.—(Loud applause). There is another point I would like to refer to for a moment, and that is when the Committee of the old "Worcester" Boys' Association learn of the high honour you have conferred upon their President, I am sure they will agree with me in appreciating it most highly, and also realize that such courtesy on your part can only tend to draw the two ships closer

together in a bond of union and strength for a common aim, and that is the training of the youth of this nation to become officers. At no time has it become of greater moment than at present, that the young officer of the day should have a competent knowledge of boatwork. It is not for me to paint the lily in any respect, but I do think that the efficiency and tone that these two training ships have

put into the Mercantile Marine in every part of the globe is extraordinary.—(Loud applause.) I can only in conclusion, gentlemen, thank you very cordially indeed for the delightful hospitality you have afforded your guests to-night.—(Loud applause.) I believe that coupled with this toast is also the name of Mr. Burton Chadwick.

Mr. Burton Chadwick: Mr. President and Gentlemen. I have to congratulate the Committee who have the organization of this splendid repast, which we have all enjoyed, on their refinement of hospitality. When I came into the room I was told casually that I would have to say something in reply to the toast of "The Guests," but I thought he was joking, and I would have been very unhappy if I had known I was to speak, and I thank him and the Committee most heartily for not making me miserable at the beginning instead of at the end of my dinner. Well, sir, I will not keep you a moment, as it is getting rather late, but I would like to refer to something you said about the accommodation which is being provided on what you are pleased to call the small class of ship. I happen to be one of that much maligned class known as the tramp steamship owner.—(Voices of "No, No.") I do not say maligned without some reason, but, sir, I think that most of the gentlemen here are well aware that a great improvement is taking place in the accommodation which is being provided in ships which are under construction to-day.—(Hear, hear.) I have recently gone to some trouble in going over a number of ships built within the last twelve months, and really the accommodation there for officers has been magnificent. There is no doubt about it, in the transition from sail to steam we have militated against our own interests in this extraordinarily important matter of accommodation and general consideration for our officers in the cargo steamers, and I think it has been really a want of appreciation of the conditions under which men live at sea, and that, I am sure, is being improved. I believe we shall see a greater inducement for the better class of boy to come into the tramp steamers than we have shown for years past. I have many friends amongst old "Conways." I had not the privilege of being on the "Conway" myself, and unfortunately since we gave up sailing ships we have parted company with the "Conway" boy, because the "Conway" boy and the tramp steamers

have not much in common, but I hope sincerely that we shall see more "Conway" boys in our ships. I have great pleasure in associating myself with the remarks of Captain Young in responding.—(Applause).

Commander H. McNeile Dibb: Gentlemen, it is my privilege this evening to propose the toast of "Our Chairman."—(Loud applause). It will be superfluous on my part to go into details with regard to his career. Amongst our old boys we have Admirals, Commanders, and Lieutenants galore, dignitaries of the Church—one is here who was recently presented with silver plate by his parishioners—and we have men at the Bar, but I might say that our Chairman is unique among "Conway" boys. From our "Conway" records we know that he was a very good boy, quite a capable sailor. We know that he was a distinguished officer in the Army, but I think he is the only old "Conway" boy who has distinguished himself in the Colonial Service as a Governor.—(Loud applause.) He has said that he attributes his success in life to the training he received on the "Conway." As the best known of old boys, and the President of our Club, I ask you to charge your glasses and drink to the good health and long life of our Chairman, and may he be spared to take his place at this meeting for many years to come.—(Loud applause.)

The Chairman: Gentlemen, the evening is getting very late, so I will not keep you very long, but I have to thank you very sincerely, the proposer of this toast, and you gentlemen who have so kindly and so cordially accepted the toast. It has been, as I said before, a great pleasure and a great honour to be the President of this Club, and it has given me the very greatest pleasure to come here this evening. We have been talking about various things that affect one's business in life. My presence here to-night is due to the Balkan War; as a matter of fact as High Commissioner of Cyprus. I was indisposed, and my medical adviser told me to get away last November, and I telegraphed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies for permission to come home, and he said, "If it is possible for you to remain, I think you had better remain at your post." If I had come home last November, I would not have had the pleasure of being here this evening, and as a result of the Greeks and Turks fighting, I have been allowed to come here this evening. I do trust that on many occasions I may be here to take the chair at

your meetings, and to encourage you in every way to go on and prosper, especially the "Conway" Club. I thank you very much indeed.—(Applause).

A very enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the whole company joining in the singing of the National Anthem and "Auld Lang Syne."

The Dinner was preceded by the Annual Meeting of the "Conway" Club, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—

President :

Sir H. J. Goold-Adams, G.C.M.G.

Vice-President :

Captain W. P. Thompson, R.N.R.

Hon. Auditors :

Commander C. K. Browne, R.D., R.N.R.,

and

Lieutenant L. R. Peel, R.N.R.

Captain Broadbent was elected Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, and Mr. W. M. Langton, of Nanaimo, British Columbia, was elected to the Committee, in lieu of Captain W. P. Lapage, deceased. Mr. G. Biddulph Eaton was elected an Honorary Member of the Club.
